

WESTWOOD NEWS

Autumn Term (1) 2023



Dear Families,

We have had a very busy and productive first half term to this academic year. The children have settled really well into their new classes and lots of excellent learning has taken place. Class teachers have carried out baseline assessments and identified each pupil's strengths as well as their areas for development which they will share with you during our Parents Evenings on 31st October & 1st November. We have had our initial visit and follow up meeting with our School Improvement Partner (Lisa Corby) from the Active Learning Trust Central Team, during which we shared our priorities for this year and our predictions for the end of year statutory assessments. We are all set for a fantastic year!

Thank you to all those who have attended our Community Forum sessions so far. It has been great to welcome you in to school and tell you all about how we teach Phonics, Reading and Maths as well as sharing with you our approach to Safeguarding and Online Safety... Next half term, we will be focussing on how we teach Writing, Oracy & Science. The feedback from our School in Action tour was extremely positive so we will continue with these sessions throughout the year with an opportunity for you to see the learning taking place each half term. We will also be inviting families in for Share sessions during Autumn 2—some of these dates are in this newsletter, others will be shared very soon—as well as events to celebrate Christmas!

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Book Fair and bought books — we had a fantastic £128 of rewards to spend from our book fair which we have used to buy a selection of poetry books for each class as this is a focus area for our development of reading for pleasure this year. Our pupil leadership groups have planned a range of events for next half term — many of which are listed in the 'Diary Dates' page of this newsletter but we will keep you updated with any others that are added throughout the term.

This half term has also seen the start of a range of visitors and visits planned for this year. We had the author Steve Clifford spend a few days with us to inspire our writing and, as the weather was against us, Reverend Helen Jary came into school to deliver our Harvest Festival on the last day of term.

We have some exciting news to share... Miss Bircham has had her baby! Myles was born on 6th October—a beautiful baby brother for big sister April— the whole family are doing really well and we are looking forward to meeting Myles and having cuddles very soon!

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our school, it really is our pleasure teaching your children and working with our local community. We are so Proud to be Westwood!

Enjoy the half term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 30th October Mrs Barnes





Nursery & Reception Autumn I



This half term we have welcomed back old friends and welcomed new ones. We have been getting to know each other, the adults and routines in the class.

Our topic has been 'All about me' and we have read stories all about friendships and feelings.

In maths we have been subitising—recognising how many without counting and in phonics we have been using our listening skills to identify and recognize different sounds.

We have drawn our faces adding details to make them unique and using a variety of loose parts in transient art. We have created houses with large and small bricks as well as finding where we live on Google Earth.

We have made porridge when reading the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and in the woods we have looked for sticks, conkers and made bird feeders.



<u>Reception</u>

This term Reception have been looking at the topic 'Marvellous Me'. The children shared their All About Me bags talking about themselves, their families and their favourite things. We have celebrated what makes us unique looking at the similarities and differences between ourselves, comparing our physical features and our likes and dislikes. We drew pictures of our new friends as well as self-portraits. We talked about the importance of being kind, the children made their own class rules and have been filling up a kindness jar to get a reward! We have discussed our emotions and how things make us feel.

When discussing our families, we drew pictures of our house and people that live with us. We discussed our favourite meals to eat at home and voted for what to cook at school. The next day we chopped vegetables and mixed the ingredients to make yummy spaghetti! In Maths this term we have been practising the skill of subitising, measuring height, looking at numbers 1–5 and practising counting with 1:1 correspondence. We have enjoyed our first P.E sessions in the hall, where we have

been

















Nursery & Reception Autumn 2



Nursery

In Autumn 2 our topic will be 'Superheroes', we will be looking at different types of superheroes and having a secret superhero challenge each week.....keep your eyes peels for this! We will be exploring circles and triangles through art and using different types of technology.

We will also celebrating bonfire night and Christmas with special celebrations.

<u>Reception</u>

Next term we are looking at the topic 'People Who Help Us'. We will be discussing the job roles people do and how they keep us safe. We hope to have some visits from people within the community and learn about them.

The week commencing the 6th November we have our Phonics Parent Share sessions, these are designed to show parents what happens in the classroom and help you support your child's reading at home. Next term we will be taking part in Woodland Sessions on a Monday, please bring a named puddle suit.

Upcoming Events

Nursery and Reception will be attending the theatre and we will be sharing Christmas performances with you as well as parent share days.



Years | & 2 Autumn |



This half term, we have been learning all about our local area. We went on a walk around our local area to discover the landmarks that surround us. We then created our own journey books to show our learning journey.



We had an extremely fun workshop with author Steve Clifford who told us stories and inspired us to get writing. We have been working to create collages inspired by Henri Matisse in our Art and been developing our team skills in our PE sessions.



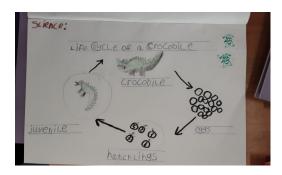




We

have

also had some fantastic homework this half term, we have been blown away by Key Stages ones learning at home!







Years I & 2 Autumn 2



Next half term we will be learning all about 'Our wonderful weather'.

As Writers, we will be writing a 5 part problem/solution story as well as creating our own explanation texts.

As readers, we will be continuing to develop our fluency skills as well as think about the choice of language used by authors.

As Mathematicians, we will be using addition and subtraction to make amounts.

As Scientists, we exploring the structure of different animal groups as well as exploring our senses.

As Geographers, we will be exploring weather and seasons and researching how this changes around the world.

As Musicians, we will be identify a range of sounds related to instruments as well as learning our Christmas corals.

As Designers, we will be creating a range of structures and evaluating our products.

As Athletes, we will be learning new gymnastics skills as well as developing our ball skills.

As Computing experts, we will be exploring taking a range of digital photographs and editing these to change their appearance.

During Religion and world Views, we will be learning about the importance of the nativity story in Christianity before rehearsing and preforming our own.



Years 3 & 4 Autumn 1



Year 3 and 4 have had a fabulous first term back. It has been so nice seeing all of our friends again and getting to know our new teachers. Miss Bailey and Miss Harvey.

This term we have been exploring light and shadows. We really enjoyed creating our own shadow stories outside.









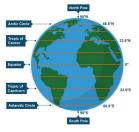
During PE we have been focusing on our basketball skills. We have been improving our techniques for dribbling, passing and shooting at the hoop and having good teamwork.



Do you know the different types of maps you might see? We have been learning about these in geography and what information the different maps give us. We have also learnt about the different tropics, hemispheres and the lines of longitude and latitude. We now understand why it is different times in different parts of the world.







Our favourite lesson this term has to have been art where we have been inspired by the famous artist Henri Matisse. We have specifically looked at his work using collages and negative/positive images. We definitely have some budding artists in LKS2!!











Years 3 & 4 Autumn 2



English

This half term in English, the children will be learning about Myths and Legends. They will look at the features of this genre of writing and then have a go at writing their own.

<u>Maths</u>

In maths the children will be working on using the column method to solve addition and subtraction calculations and applying this to problem solving activities. They will be using estimating and the inverse operations to check their answers.

Computing-The Internet

The children will be finding out all about the internet, how it works, how content can be added and how important it is to understand how some content maybe unreliable.

DT-Structures

In DT the children will investigate different 3D nets and how these are folded to make structures. The children will then design and make their own structures thinking about how they can strengthen them.

Science-Electricity

The children will have the opportunity to learn how to construct and label simple circuits. They will investigate conductors and insulators and use this knowledge to carry out experiments. They will also learn about the importance of keeping safe around electricity.

History-Ancient Egypt

As Historians the children will be learning about chronology and using different sources to further their understanding of the Egyptians. They will look at reasons why the Egyptians were successful and how we know so much about them.

Religion and World Views

In Religion and World Views the children will be learning about Hinduism through the festival of Diwali. They will be finding out the significance of the festival and how and why it is celebrated.



Years 5 & 6 Autumn 1

Well done to all Year 5 and 6 pupils for a fantastic, busy start to the year. During Autumn I, we were visited by author C.S Clifford who inspired us as writers. Alongside this, our Woodlands were invaded by Aliens! This inspired us to write news reports Literacy. These outcomes were aimed at our local community to inform them of the shocking event.



Active Artistes

We have created some beautiful outcomes in the Arts so far this year. In Art we produced some collages inspired by Gustav Klimt. In Woodlands we linked our learning to our Art topic and created weaves using natural resources. In music we listened to, learnt and performed Ghanaian songs.





Tournaments

In Autumn I, we've had fantastic engagement in ALT sports tournaments. The children have represented our school beautifully. We look forward to future tournaments in Autumn 2.











As readers we will be reading, enjoying and discussing our novels in our whole class reading sessions. We will also be reading non-fiction, songs and poetry.

As mathematicians we will be learning about multiplication and division. We will also be learning about how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions.

As historians we will be learning about the Anglo Saxons and the impact they had on Britain. We will consider the question, 'Where they invaders or settlers'? As writers we will be writing and performing our own narrative poems. We will also be writing stories inspired by the Saxon times.

As scientists we will be learning about the circulatory system and investigating the impact that diet and exercise has on the body.

In DT we will creating models of Anglo-Saxon houses by cutting, sanding and fixing materials together. In Spanish we will be learning vocabulary associated with family. In RWV we will be learning about Buddhism and in PE we will be learning Tag Rugby & Gymnastics.

Reminders

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school all week. We will have two PE lessons a week this half term so it is important that they have kit available.



Sporting Success



Tournaments

We have signed up to both the ALT and North Suffolk Sports Partnership fixtures this year so we have lots of opportunities for children to take part in tournaments and represent the school.

We haven't wasted any time and Autumn I saw us take part in 5 events, earning lots of certificates, bringing home lots of medals but most importantly having lots of fun!

Our UKS2 tag rugby team finished 3rd in their respect development event.

Our UKS2 football teams played hard but didn't progress past the group stage

Our Year 3 footballers finished 4th in the 'A' league.

Our Key Stage | footballers came 3rd in both events and demonstrated amazing teamwork!

Our Key Stage 2 Panathalon team had great fun and finished 2nd overall!

<u>Sports Clubs</u>

Well done to all play leaders for an excellent start to the year. They have supported and organised activities for the whole school to engage in at lunchtime. After school clubs have been busy with basketball for years 4, 5 & 6, football for years 1, 2 & 3, and all years trying lots of new sports in our Give it a Go clubs!

Upcoming Fixtures & Events

Wednesday 8th November	13:00-15:45
Friday 10th November	15:45-17:30
Thursday 23rd November	14:30-16:30
Wednesday 29th November	12:45-15:00
Friday Ist December	All day
Thursday 7th December	15:45-17:30

Year 4 Mixed Year 4 Boys UKS2 Mixed LKS2 Mixed UKS2 Mixed LKS2 Mixed Dodgeball @ Pakefield High Football @ Red Oak Basketball @ East Point Academy Everyone Active Frstival @ Water Lane Schools against Racism @ Red Oak Unihoc @ Red Oak

#BETHEBESTTHATYOUCANBE

<u>Diary Dates</u> There will be more events taking place and we will let you know as soon as possible! Events in purple are the ones we would love families to join us in school for.

Monday 30th October	Children return to school
Tuesday 31st October	Spooky Dress Up day
Tuesday 31st Oct & Wednesday 1st Nov	Parents Evenings 15:30–18:00 (10 minute slots)
Wednesday Ist November	HSBC Workshops
W/C Monday 6th November	Reception Parent Share Week
Wednesday 8th November	Years 5 & 6 West Stow Trip
Thursday 9th November	Year 6 Crucial Crew
W/C Monday 13th November	Anti-bullying Week Nursery Parent Share Week
Monday 13th November	Silly Sock Day
Tuesday 14th November	EYFS & Year I Panto Workshop
Wednesday 15th November	Flu vaccinations for Reception to Year 6 pupils 17:00—18:15 Bedtime Stories
Friday 17th November	Children In Need-non uniform day
Thursday 23rd November	Reception Diwali Workshop
Thursday 30th November	Years 3 & 4 Norwich Castle Visit
Thursday 7th December	EYFS & Year I Christmas Show at Seagull Theatre
Tuesday 12th December	9:15–UKS2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 13th December	9:15–KS1 Christmas. Performance 14:00–UKS2 Christmas. Performance
Thursday 14th December	Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day 9:15—LKS2 Christmas Performance 14:00—KSI Christmas Performance
Friday 15th December	14:00–LKS2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 20th December	Last day of the half term & Elf Day
Thursday 21st Dec to Tuesday 2nd Jan	Christmas Holiday
Wednesday 3rd January	Children return to school

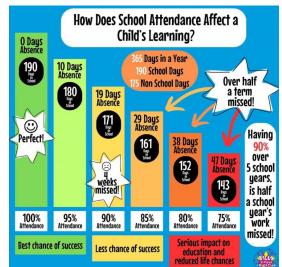
ATTENDANCE.

One of our whole school priorities for this year is to raise our pupils' attendance levels above the national target of 95%. Each week our Attendance Officer (Mrs. Fairweather) calculates the attendance for each class and the winning class has the chance to play Attendance-opoly where they can win prizes for their class.

This half term, our winners have been:

04.09.23	Years 2,4 & 6	100%
11.09.23	Year 4	97.7%
18.09.23	Year 6	97.7%
25.09.23	Year I	97%
02.10.23	Year 2	97.3%
09.10.23	Year 6	96.2%

This table shows the weekly percentage for each class (we haven't included Nursery as they are non-statutory so not included in the government's figures), as you can see there is still some work to be done to hit that 95% target...



	04.09.23	11.09.23	18.09.23	25.09.23	02.10.23	09.10.23
Reception	99.3%	90.21	95.0%	89.3%	94.8%	93.6%
Year I	94.3%	91.7%	91.7%	97.0%	93.8%	94.5%
Year 2	100.0%	97.3%	92.0%	93.0%	97.3%	94.0%
Year 3	96.0%	97.2%	94.4%	93.6%	91.2%	92.8%
Year 4	100.0%	97.7%	92.6%	91.9%	90.3%	94.4%
Year 5	93.8%	93.3%	96.3%	92.9%	90.4%	95.4%
Year 6	100.0%	93.9%	97.7%	96.5%	91.5%	96.2%

THANK YOU for your support in ensuring your children attend school each day; if they aren't in school, we can't teach them!

HOUSE POINTS

The totals for this half term are:

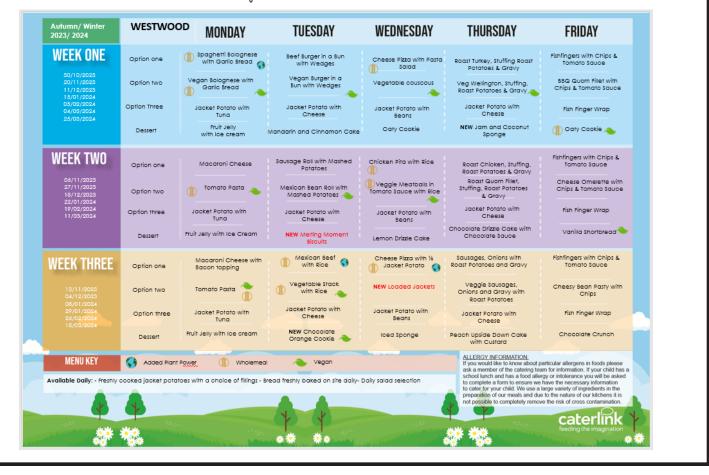
Sapphire = 2,377 Diamond = 2,604 Emerald = 2,659 Ruby = 2,754

Congratulations Ruby-your house captains are busy organising your treat!

Our new range of extra-curricular clubs will start from Monday 30th October

Day	Breakfast 8.00am - 8.30am	Lunch 12pm - 1pm		After School 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Monday	Multisports - Mr Hepburn Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Tournament Prep/Team Games - Mr Eley		Give it a go (a different ball game each week) - Mr Eley Years 1, 2 & 3
Wonday	Library/Reading - Miss Bow Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	<u>Colouring</u> Miss Fayers	<u>Colouring</u> Mrs Ball	Feathers & Friends - Miss Bow & Mrs Eccleston Years 4, 5 & 6
T	Multisports - Mr Hepburn Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Tournament Prep/Team Games - Mr Eley		Plot Twist (Reading/Drama) - Fun with words Miss Bow - Years 1, 2 & 3
Tuesday	Library/Reading - Miss Bow Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Construction Mrs Gee	Construction Miss Harvey	Give it a go (a different ball game each week) - Mr Eley Years 4, 5 & 6
Wednesday	Multisports - Mr Hepburn Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Library/Reading - Miss Bow Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Tournament Prep/Team Games - Mr Eley Rock Choir - Mr Syed		Feathers & Friends - Miss Bow & Mrs Eccleston Years 1, 2 & 3 Board Games - Miss Thompson Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Basketball - Mr Eley Years 4, 5 & 6
Thursday	Multisports - Mr Hepburn Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Library/Reading - Miss Bow Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Tournament Prep/Team Games - Mr Eley		Football - Mr Eley Years 1, 2 & 3
		Board Games Miss Gardener	Board Games Miss Trussler	Plot Twist (Reading/Drama) - Fun with words Miss Bow - Years 4, 5 & 6 Monster Maths - Miss Fayers & Mrs Longthorne Year 6 (by invite only)
Friday	Multisports - Mr Hepburn Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Tournament Prep/Te	am Games - Mr Eley	
riday	Library/Reading - Miss Bow Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Computing Miss Bailey	Computing Miss Shuffle	

A new half term means a new lunch menu.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have a strict School Uniform Policy. Please ensure your child is dressed in the following named school uniform:

Daily Uniform Black tailored trousers/shorts/skirt/dress Purple Summer checked dress White polo shirt Purple school cardigan/jumper/fleece Black shoes (no boots or trainers) Black tights or white/black/grey socks Purple school book bag PE/Sports Kit White T-shirt Black shorts White socks Plimsoles or trainers Black jogging bottoms Black sweatshirt PE bag

All items are readily available from high street stores or their internet shopping websites. Sweatshirts/cardigans/book bags/PE bags/water bottles with the school logo are available from Screens We have a large range of new & used school uniform items available at no cost in our Community Hub-please pop in and take what you need.

<u>Jewellery, hair & make-up</u>

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school except plain stud earrings and/or an inexpensive watch—these must be removed for P.E. Extreme haircuts or colouring are not permitted. Hairbands & clips should be discreet designs in colours compatible with school colours. No make-up or nail varnish may be worn.

WEBSITE	CONTACT DETAILS
Please keep an eye on the school website as we update this regularly. The address is: www:westwoodprimary.org You can also follow us on:	Please ensure we have your up to date contact details. This includes current address and telephone numbers. We MUST have two contact telephone
Twitter: @Westwood School Facebook: Westwood Primary School	numbers in case of an emergency.
Ershack Wastward Drimany	
School	PARENTMAIL
OInstagram: westwoodprimary	Please ensure you sign up to ParentMail, this is how you will receive ALL means of
	receive ALL means of
ALLERGY INFORMATION	communication.
As you will already be aware, we are a nut-free school - we have children who have allergies to a variety of different nuts as well as peanuts—and ask that parents check the ingredients of items in packed	Please speak to the school office, if you have any problems – paper copies may be available upon request.
lunches, avoiding anything that states it contains nuts	



Reading



We really enjoyed our visit from author Steve Clifford this half term. It was lovely to see so many children engaged and inspired to write their own stories. He enjoyed his visit immensely and was blown away by the brilliant behaviour and enthusiasm of our children. Some children were so inspired by his writing workshops they didn't want to stop writing and even asked if they could carry on at lunch time!





KEY STAGE 2 VISITING AUTHOR AND WRITING WORKSHOPS



THE WALKING WITH SERIES FOR 8-13 YEAR OLDS at £6.99





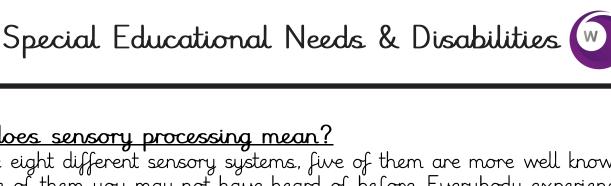




If anyone is still interested in purchasing one of the books, you can find more information on Steve's website: www.cscliffor d.co.uk

CANAL CAPER SERIES FOR 6-9 YEAR OLDS at £7.99

LDS at £7.99 TRAWLER TALE SERIES FOR 6-9 YEAR OLDS at £5.99 (More detail at www.csclifford.co.uk)

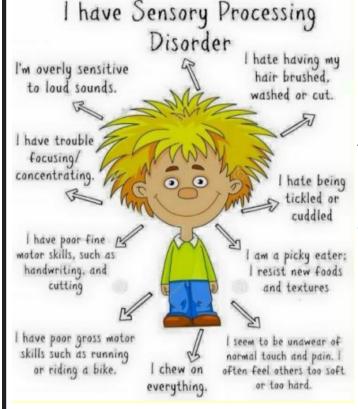


We have eight different sensory systems, five of them are more well known, and three of them you may not have heard of before. Everybody experiences the world in different ways, sometimes the way your body processes sensory information can make it difficult to join in with daily life or experiences. The videos below (from Sheffield NHS) provide additional

information about difficulties with sensory processing:

<u>What does sensory processing mean?</u>

- Understanding sensory processing and your child: (3) 3. Theory &
- Regulating sensory strategies: (3) 3. Theory & Introduction You Tube



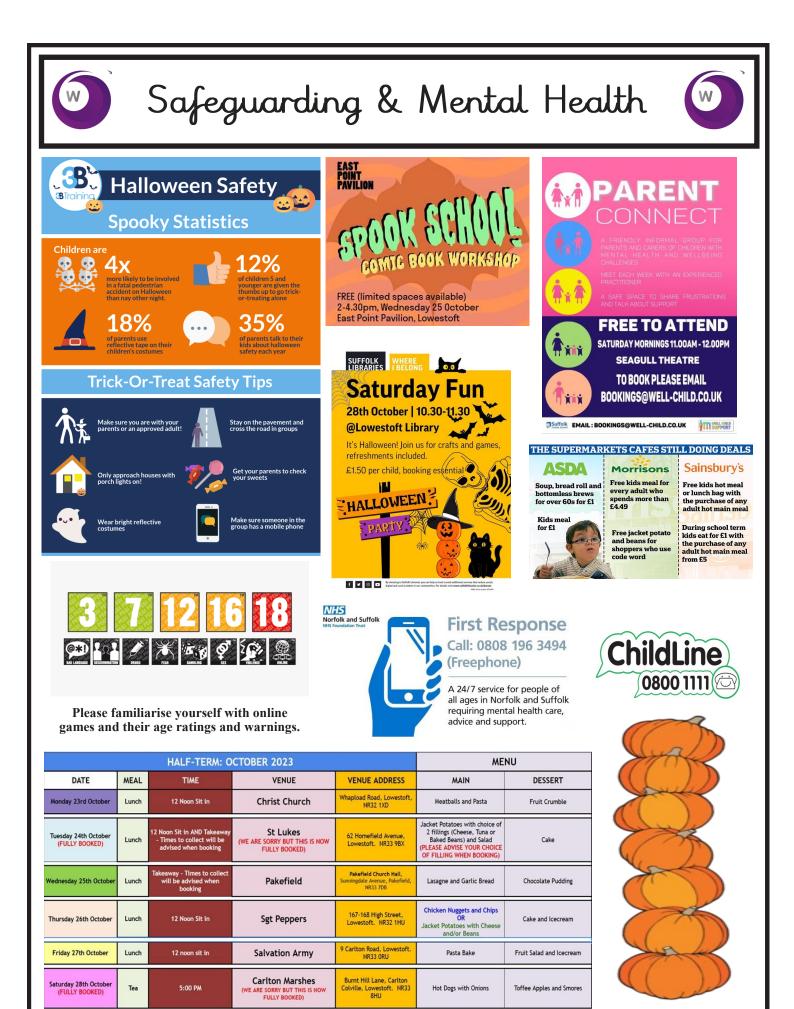


Free download resources for parent support - (press control and click to take you to website).

Download Sensory Processing Starter <u>Kit - FREE!! (sensoryprocessing101.com)</u>

If you are concerned that your child may be presenting with signs of processing difficulties, speak to the school SEND team or your GP.

SPD will present in all environments including school, and it is an opportunity to discuss your concerns and talk about next steps



<u>People who can help</u>

In addition to your child's class teacher, who should always be your first point of contact, the following people are readily available to help you with any issue, if needed.





Mrs Rae Aldous Executive Headteacher

Mrs Lauraine Barnes Westwood Head of School



Mrs Rachel Kounnas Grove Interim Head of School



Mrs Jackie Cutchey Chair of Governors



Mrs Danielle Gillings Assistant Head EYFS Lead



Miss Beth Jones Assistant Head KSI Lead



Mrs Kate Grey Assistant Head Pastoral & SEND



Mrs Kelly Hough Assistant Head Staff Development



Miss Natalie Taylor Family Support Worker



Mrs Chloe Kippen Family Support Worker



Mrs Sarah Bayfield SENDCo



Mr Stephen Clarke Safeguarding Governor